

# Seoul Union Tongshin

Quarterly Newsletter, Seoul Union Church, Central P.O. Box 1125, Seoul 100, Rep. of Korea

"They were from every race, tribe, nation, and language, and they stood in front of the throne and of the Lamb."  
(Rev. 7:9b)

Pastor: Roland F. Hughes, M.Div.

Spring 1988

Editor: Marilyn G. Thrasher

## PASTOR'S CORNER



Dear Members and Friends at Seoul Union,

Paul writes, "Don't let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath Day" (Col. 2:16). "One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike" (Rom. 14:5). "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free" (Gal. 5:1). As you read the context of each one of these verses, you will see the emphasis on our freedom and our responsibility to use our freedom to serve God and mankind! Thus Lent may be a good time to think of Jesus' words, "If anyone would come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." As I think of the sacrifice of Christ, I have to ask myself, "What sacrifice have I made recently for Him or for others to express His love and salvation?" The poor of the Philippines were certainly a challenge to me. Perhaps the least we can do is to tell others of Jesus and invite them to worship Him with us at Seoul Union.



Our Maundy Thursday service [March 31] will feature the nations of the earth. If you would like to decorate a table to represent your home country or a country you are familiar with, please let me know. You would also be invited to wear something of your native dress.

Our Easter celebration [April 3] will begin with breakfast in our Fellowship Hall at 7:45 a.m. It will feature good food, music by Al Haggard, an outstanding tenor soloist from California, U.S.A., and others. Our worship services at 9:30 & 10:45 a.m. will feature our choirs and soloists. I will preach on "The Inward Evidence" from Luke 24. Let's all pray for someone to share our faith in Jesus Christ with during Lent. Whatever that sacrifice might be to our appearance to others as being self sufficient, remember that as Solomon said, "God has placed eternity in the heart of mankind," and that all hearts are restless until they rest in Him.

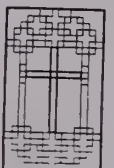
There is great joy in knowing that all of our sins past, present, and future are taken care of by Jesus' sacrifice of Himself upon the cross and that our death is entrance into life that is more real, solid, and loving than we have ever known on this earth. See II Cor. chapter 5.

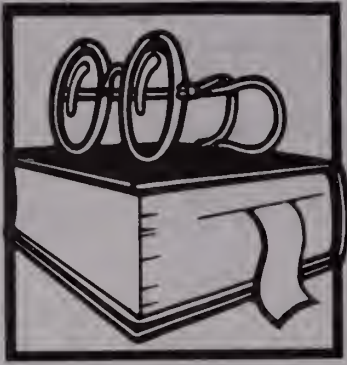
"Because He lives we too shall live!" May this fact help you to be joyful and spread His joy to everyone you meet. Amen!

In His Power,

*Roland + Harriet*

Roland and Harriet Hughes





# BOOK REVIEW

answers., by Becky Barker, Copyright 1981 (first Harper and Row Publishers edition, 1987), 5 dividers, 40 single-side pages, and 8 French-fold envelopes, US\$19.95.

You may wonder every once in a while how to go about shaping up your personal, property, and financial affairs for your loved ones so they will know what you want them to do in the event of your death. Perhaps your head office requested that you file wills and put other financial matters in order before you left to live overseas. But even after following those instructions, you might not rest easily sometimes when you actually think of your spouse or children possibly being suddenly left without you.

Whether or not these thoughts cross our minds, we usually continue to behave as though our own deaths are assuredly long into the future. The much-used phrase "in case of accidental death or injury" might reinforce our thinking that death is an "if" possibility and not a "when" surety. However, even if we were able to predict the time of our own death, and we prepared for it in various ways, the reality is that when it happens, our survivors must answer numerous unexpected and urgent major and minor questions: Where is the fuse box? Did he/she wish to be buried, entombed, or cremated? Where are the bank account pass books? When is the next mortgage payment due? When is the maturity date on the insurance policy? Where are the business contracts? Etc. Etc. Etc.

Your spouse or children will be thoroughly exhausted from the shock of their loss alone without having to try to remember some very basic details during those first hours, days, and weeks. It may take your survivors days at a time to search for one vital document or item alone if they did not know beforehand what to do.

Becky Barker began to experience all of this firsthand immediately after her husband's sudden death. She later realized that he would have wanted to spare her of all she actually went through. In turn, she decided that others need not undergo the same fatiguing worries if only they could effectively answer the right questions ahead of time. And so, she developed a carefully thought out workbook, called answers., a practical guide and reference tool for spouses to prepare for each other or for their children right now while there may still be the opportunity.

This reviewer feels that any amount of time spent for one's family on organizing every bit of pertinent information is a worthwhile investment. A completed answers. workbook could very well be one of the most valuable gifts you leave for your loved ones. After being given finger-tip access to needed information, your family members can deal more effectively with their natural grief rather than facing baffling details. When you have completed your sections of answers., you can have peace of mind in this regard.

This book gets high marks for its useful contribution to the real world. The sturdy fill-in-the-blank worksheets allow for entries and revisions to be made in pencil. Sixteen pockets can store photocopies of important documents. The dividers help with organization. And all are held together in a durable 3-ring binder. It is to be routinely updated and stored in a fireproof location known by key members of your extended family as well as the appropriate persons in your organization.

To order your copy, write to Harper and Row Publishers, Inc., P.O. Box 1630, Hagerstown, MD 21741-9983, U.S.A. figuring in an additional amount for overseas postage. Some organizations are giving answers. workbooks to their employees. For information about discounts given to corporations or nonprofit organizations, you may write directly to the author: Becky Barker, answers period, inc.; P.O. Box 72666, Corpus Christi, TX 78472, U.S.A.

- Marilyn G. Thrasher



Maranatha!

# REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PASTORS AND SPOUSES CONFERENCE: Harriet and I had a great time in the Philippines attending the International Pastors and Spouses Conference of Union Churches. Ten churches were represented from the Far East. We have not yet been back home very long, but my overall impression of the Philippines is a sense of urgency. Urgency upon the church and the government to meet the great needs of the people.

The contrast between the rich and the poor is very pronounced. At the garbage dump, nicknamed "Smokey Mountain," we saw water carriers, children scraping detergent from soap boxes, and those who separate out for recycling: paper, cardboard, glass, cans, metal, and plastic. We visited the poor, but we lived with the rich. I was impressed by the Manila Union Church in its help to Youth With A Mission and Morning Star Ministries as they work with the people of "Smokey Mountain."

I was also impressed with Barrie Flitcroft as he works with the medical teams that he has organized. They go into the back mountain areas and restore sight to the blind and show Campus Crusade's movie "Jesus" to the poor who also hunger and thirst for God. Barrie also took Roland to see their work teaching blind young people contour farming and how to raise goats and rabbits as well as how to read and write braille. Tillie took Harriet to the shopping centers of Baguio. We had enjoyable conversations about their work in Vietnam, Korea, and Baguio.

We also visited Steve and Sara Tamplin in Manila on Steve's birthday, which turned out to be a day of celebration in the local park where we had a community dinner. Afterwards we went swimming in their swimming pool and ate his birthday cake. Both the Tamplins and the Flitcrofts send their love to all their friends at Seoul Union. You are all invited to visit them. Thank you for sending us. - Roland Hughes



Thank  You

"Dear family and friends of Edith J. Reavis,

March 1, 1988

Thank you for sharing your love, concern, and sympathy to the family at this time. On behalf of Timothy, Jonathan, and myself, we want to express our deep appreciation to each one of you.

To those who have helped in so many ways - thank you.

A relationship has been broken, and we will all miss a loving wife, mother, and dear friend. May we all be drawn closer to Him through this triumphal entry of our loved one.

In His caring Hand,  
(signed)  
Glen D. Reavis

'It is good to declare Thy lovingkindness in the morning, and Thy faithfulness by night.' Psalm 92:2

Your gifts of love and sympathy will be put in a memorial for Edith at the Conference Grounds (KCCG).

Thank you."

EDITH J. REAVIS, a member of The Evangelical Alliance Mission in Korea since 1955, passed away on February 24, 1988 at the Christian Hospital in Kwangju, Korea. She served with her husband for 11 years at the Mountain of Blessing Orphanage in Pusan and for 15 years at the Korea Christian Conference Grounds in Seoul and most recently in the administrative office of TEAM. A funeral service was held on February 27 at the Seoul Union Church and a committal service immediately followed outside in the Foreigners' Cemetery (D-3). Many friends and colleagues in the Korean and foreign missionary communities came to say farewell. We express our love and sympathy to Glen, sons Timothy and Jonathan, and to members of The Evangelical Alliance Mission for their loss and rejoice with them in the assurance that our sister in Christ is in our Father's House.

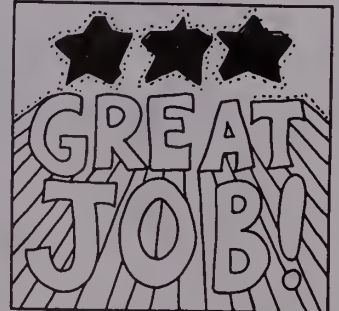
For MAUNDY THURSDAY on March 31st, there will be a congregational dinner at the church followed by a Candle Light Communion Service, special music, and a message from Pastor Hughes. Tickets for the dinner are on sale.




EASTER SUNDAY, April 3rd, will begin with a congregational breakfast at 7:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Worship services will take place at 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. We will listen to special music performed by our own Si Rae Pak and by Mr. Al Haggard from California, U.S.A. The Seoul Union Church Choir and the Children's Choir will also sing. This will be an opportunity for you to bring new acquaintances and old friends.

SEOUL FOREIGNERS' CEMETERY PARK is now listed as a historical site for tour groups. During 1987, twenty one groups totalling 1,216 people as well as many other individuals visited. Supervision of this cemetery is a service our church has been providing for the foreign community of Seoul since 1956.

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE! David Underwood, our head usher, earned his Eagle Scout Award, the highest merit award in the Boy Scouts. The Seoul Foreign School boys' basketball team placed second in the Small Schools, Class A, Far East Basketball Championships. Two of our young men, Ross Kinsler and Matt Colman, played star performances on the court. Ross has been chosen for the All Far East team to which only ten men are named. Congratulations all for jobs well done! (To moms and dads, too.)



 A CONTINENTAL SINGERS CONCERT is planned for Saturday evening, April 16. These musicians from American colleges travel around the world regularly, becoming very well known internationally as they bring popular music to all ages. Our Hospitality Committee is in the process of arranging housing for them (about 35 people) for that evening, April 16. Please call Joan Green (585-2853) right away if you can help out. Her phone is sometimes connected to her answering machine when she is not at home, so feel free to record your name, phone number, and reason for calling.

## Get Involved in

On January 30, 1988, a Congregational Meeting was held to brainstorm on how to make our Lord's ministry more effective through us and through Seoul Union Church. Some of the ideas and concerns expressed have been long-standing, and others reflect the changes which have come as a result of having a permanent home after one hundred years. As you read through the following notices, please consider how you might best use your knowledge and abilities to help out and to minister to fellow church-goers and newcomers. We need you. Simply speak to Pastor Hughes or to the individual coordinating a particular program, and they will be happy to get you started.



DO YOU HAVE A GREEN THUMB? Join the Gardening Committee to help us plan how to beautify the Church and Cemetery grounds. As you know, planting season is fast approaching - is here - so please contact Bob Sauer (312-6689) right away.

DO YOU LOVE FLOWERS? The Worship and Music Committee is looking for someone to be in charge of the floral arrangements for the sanctuary each week. This does not mean you must know how to arrange them yourself. Please contact Bob Grace (393-9854) evenings to learn more about this ministry.

If you are high school age or adult, you might consider being an USHER during one of our three services. This partly involves greeting and seating people, giving Visitor's Cards to first-timers, and collecting the offering. Please contact Bob Grace (393-9854) or David Underwood (392-4406).

On Arbor Day, April 5, we will have a WORK DAY when we will continue to clean up around the yard, with plans in mind for a small picnic area, and build an incinerator. Look for a sign-up sheet soon at church.

We appreciate all the families who have provided coffee and treats for the Fellowship Hour after the main service. We encourage you to keep signing up for this and to remind you all that when there are snacks, they have been prepared above and beyond the basic request for hot drinks for the adults and cool drinks for the children. Thanks!



AN EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN has been established with the intention that those on it agree to receive calls for prayer at any hour of the day or night. If you are interested in becoming a part of this vital ministry, please contact Nancy Byrne (744-6800).

\*\*\*\*\* What is agape? Would you like to join a group of us seeking to learn just what God's love  
\* A G A P É \* can mean by putting love into action for someone in need? Approximately 16 women in the church  
\* I N \* have signed up to be on the AIM list, that is, to be on call to use their interests and  
\* M O T I O N \* abilities to serve when a need arises. The particular types of help you might like to share  
\*\*\*\*\* are: Korean Language, Transportation, Food Preparation, Child Care, Visitation, Newcomers Assistance, Freezer Storage, and Reading Materials for the bedridden. We do not wish to place restrictions on other creative ways you would like to serve, because we realize that the expression of God's love cannot be limited. Please see the sign-up sheet posted on the first floor bulletin board. Also, if you have a friend in need, or something happens where you would like some assistance, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CALL US. Perhaps the best way to get us into motion would be to call Harriet Hughes (795-7237) or Marilyn Thrasher (739-0559). An official coordinator will be chosen later. Thank You!!

*Share Your Faith!* ATTENTION, ALL WOMEN! Please mark Saturday, April 30th, on your calendars for "Fabrics of Life," a women's seminar comprised of worship and workshops. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the church and conclude at 3:00 p.m. Lunch is included. Please plan to come. We encourage you to use this opportunity to invite unchurched friends to join you. There will be pre-registration and a small charge to cover lunch and other expenses. For more information, look for related announcements in the church bulletin. This seminar is being planned by the Spiritual Life Committee.

THE MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP continues to meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month at 7:00-8:00 a.m. at the Naija Hotel Restaurant near Kwanghwamun. These have been times of enjoying good food, fellowship, and inspiration, getting to know new faces and making new friends. Bring a friend with you!

THE ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS is studying "Exodus, God's Great Rescue." God continues to deliver and develop his people as he first did with Israel, so there is still a powerful message for us today. The class meets at 9:40 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and is led by Ken Heulitt, Chairman of the Congregation, here in Korea with Samsung Petrochemical and accompanied by his wife, Sara.

THE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY continues to meet every Wednesday, 10:00-11:30 a.m., in the home of Marilyn Thrasher (739-0559). We are currently being led by Harriet Hughes in a study of Colossians "Be What You Are." For those few weeks that Harriet was absent, Megan Ritchie held studies on women in the Bible and on being the salt of the earth. We have enjoyed meeting regularly together, not only to study God's messages to us, but to become better acquainted with others in the congregation. All ladies are welcome to attend. Please call Marilyn for directions.

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT BIBLE STUDY: Precept is an inductive weekly study which uses the Word of God itself instead of books about the Bible. It requires five hours of individual study each week and attendance in group discussion followed by an in-depth lecture. The study lasts for approximately 2 1/2 hours. Precept has been written for those who hunger to know the truth directly rather than relying on the wisdom of others. If you are willing to discipline yourself in order to know God intimately as He is revealed through His Word and to understand His principles for your life, then Precept is the Bible study for you. We will be studying the Book of James in the fall, after the Summer Olympics. Please contact Nancy Byrne (744-6800) for more information and if you are interested in making a commitment to this method.

A PRECEPT LEADERSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOP will be held in Seoul May 17-20, 1988. Be on the lookout for more information. See the brochures on the table outside the sanctuary.



Another way you could become vitally involved in the life of Seoul Union would be to use your typing and computer skills to compile the notices and other tidbits which make up THIS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER. And/or you might agree to update THE SEMI-ANNUAL CHURCH DIRECTORY. These two projects are already on a computer disk, so you would have a head start.  
\*\* Please prayerfully consider how you will allow God to use you in church while you live in Seoul, Korea. \*\*

1988

# Calendar



MARCH

30 - Women's Bible Study, Thrasher home, 10:00-11:30 a.m. [every Wednesday].

APRIL

31 - Maundy Thursday Dinner and Candle Light Communion Service, SUCh, evening.

1 - Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Naija Restaurant, 7:00-8:00 a.m. [first & third Fridays].

3 - Easter Breakfast, SUCh, 7:45 a.m.;

- Easter Worship Services, SUCh, 9:30 & 10:45 a.m.

5 - Arbor/Work Day, SUCh grounds, see sign-up sheet.

16 - Continental Singers Concert.

19 - Church Council Meeting.

30 - Women's Seminar "Fabrics of Life," SUCh, 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

3 - Pastor Care and Relations Committee Meeting.

29 - Congregational Picnic.

MAY

JUNE

5 - Last Day of Sunday School.

7 - Church Council Meeting.

12 - Begin Summer Schedule: 9:30 a.m. worship service only (no Sunday School).

- (nothing on the calendar yet).

JULY

AUGUST

28 - School Year Schedule resumes: 2 or 3 worship services and Sunday School.

30 - Church Council Meeting.

SEPTEMBER

4 - Olympic Athlete Testimonies.

11 - Congregational Picnic.

17 - '88 Summer Olympics Opening Ceremonies.

OCTOBER 2/3

- Closing Ceremonies.

NOVEMBER

8 - Church Council Meeting (1989 Budget and Nominations).

18-20 - Church Retreat and Congregational Meeting, the Rev. Barrie Flitcroft as Guest Speaker.

24 - Thanksgiving Service.

DECEMBER

4 - Sunday Fellowship Lunch.

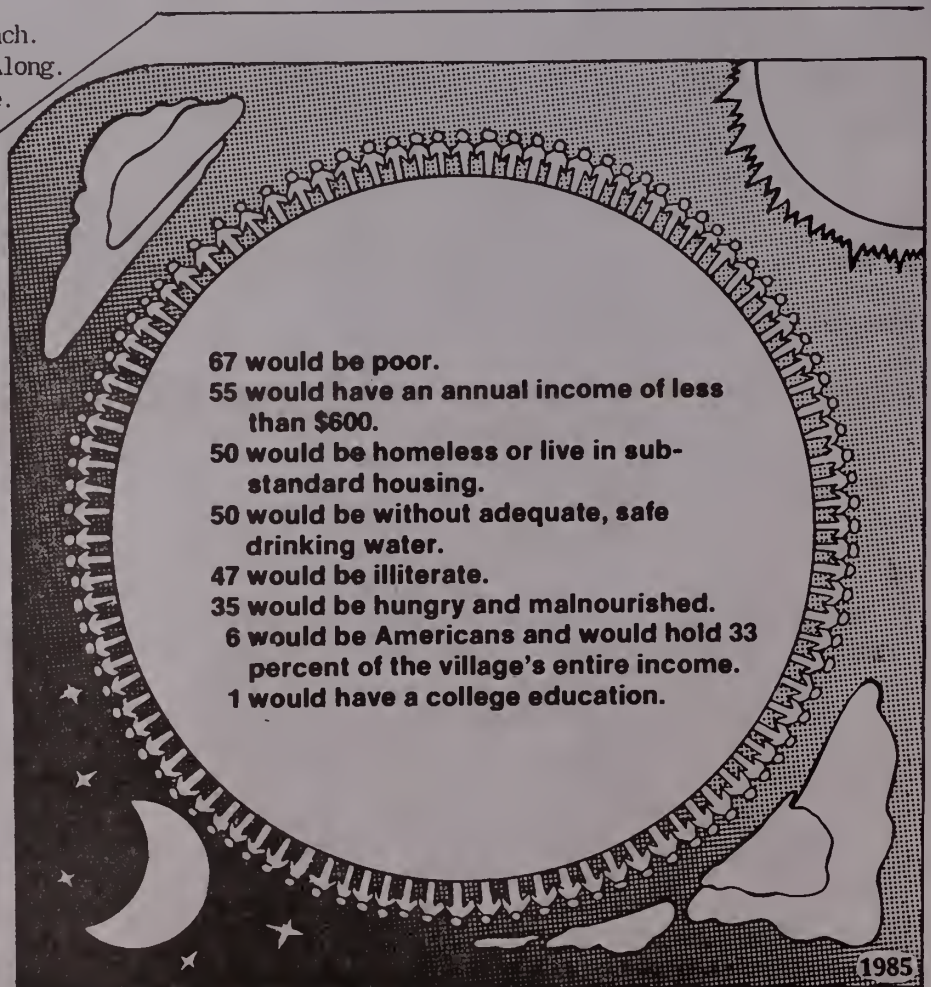
11 - Annual Messiah Sing-Along.

24 - Christmas Eve Service.

25 - Christmas Day.



**IF THE ENTIRE  
WORLD  
CONSISTED OF  
100 PEOPLE:**



1985

(Source: Catholic Relief Services)

NEA GRAPHIC

Throughout much of the world, hunger and poverty are vital facts of life.